THE
Theatrical Observer;
AND
Daily Bills of the Play.

'Nothing extenuate, nor set down aught in malice.."—OTHELLO.

No. 3210. *Thursday, March* 29, 1832. *Price* 1*d.*

"The Play's the thing!"—Ask for *Thomas's Observer*

Drury Lane Theatre.

THERE was a varied selection of sacred and prophane music, at this house last night, from the works of Handel, Haydn, Mozart, Weber, Rossini, Auber and Spohr, some of which was executed in a style worthy of those great composers, though much was but indifferently done. Mr Phillips and Mrs Bishop being engaged at the Antient Concerts retired after having each sung once, and that at the opening. Mrs Wood sang 'Ye Sacred Priests,' and 'Savourneen Delish,' in her best manner. Braham 'Oh Absolom my son;' 'The Winter it is past, and 'The Bay of Biscay. Templeton was encored in 'Orynthia.' Seguin displayed his fine voice to great advantage in the air 'Arm, arm, ye brave!' At the end of the first part, Mr Distin performed the voice part of 'The Soldier Tir'd,' on the trumpet with great sweetness and delicacy of execution, and was rapturonsly encored. The house was tolerably full at half price.

It is said that Mr and Mrs Wood, and Mr Phillips, have thrown up their engagements at Drury Lane Theatre, rather than submit to any reduction of their salaries.

We paid a visit yesterday to the Exhibition of Paintings by Antient Masters, at Exeter Hall, in the Strand, which are intended to illustrate sacred history, and must confess to have been highly delighted by the view. There is not one bad picture in the collection, and many of them are of the very highest rank. This is, we believe, the first attempt at forming a collection of pictures entirely of a sacred character, which, considering that all the eminent painters have taken the greatest part of their subjects from the sacred histories is somewhat singular. In our confined space it is impossible to do justice to the many beautiful specimens of art this collection contains, but we must make particular mention of 'The Crucifixion,' carved in ivory, by that eccentric, but talented creature, Benevenuto Cellini, the exquisite finish of which, regarded as a mere work of art, independent of the association of ideas connected with the subject, renders it one of the *bijoux* of the *salon*. Amongst the pictures, those which struck us most, were 'Christ bearing his Cross,' by Morales, which is the finest specimen of that great artist we ever saw; the expression in the countenance of our blessed Savour is truly divine. 'St. Peter delivered from Prison,' by Steenwyck, is a splendid picture; the perspective is truly admirable, and the perfect repose pervading the whole, is strictly in accordance with the subject. 'Samson and Dalilah,' by Jan Steen: the story of this picture is treated in a clear and spirited manner by the artist, and the coloring and grouping are in his best style.

'The Interior of the Great Church at Antwerp,' by Peter Neess;

'The Prodigal Son,' by Preti, 'St. John Preaching,' by Adam Elsheimer,' and 'A Magdalen reposing,' by Elisabetta Serani, are also among the *chef d œuvres* of the collection. There are some cabinet pictures of the highest class, No. 84, is a pair of real gems. The collection is not only calculated to delight the connoisseur, but it also offers a fine study for the artist, exhibiting as it does rare specimens of all the celebrated antient masters. This Exhibition cannot fail to meet with encouragement.

We perceive by the bills that Mr Sheridan Knowles's Play of *The Hunchback,* is to be produced on Thursday next, when he will undertake the arduous task of representing his own hero.

The actress who drenched her servant for disobedience of orders, having applied some *sovereign* remedies to appease the wrath of the *dripping* damsel, the warrant for her apprehension has been withdrawn.

Theatricals are in as bad a state at Paris as with us, the Opera Comique, and the Nouveautes are closed, and most of the other Theatres are going to ruin. The new Drama of *Louis XI,* has retreived the affairs of the François.

Fashionable Lounges

To the Editor of The Theatrical Observer.

Dear Mr Editor—I address you from the highly respectable house known as the *Mitre Tavern*, in Mitre Court, Fleet Street, and kept by that indefatigable landlord, William Smith—here I find neatness, moderate charges, and dispatch—accommodation for commercial men—social and pleasant Segar Room—superior Welch rabbits, poached eggs, with Stout and Ales in the highest perfection—do pop in—just wish to say a word—beg pardon, hope I don't intrude—but will you excuse me, I have to mention, that I've arranged so as to rub shoulders with my friends, and the fashionable world, at one or other of the *Grand Lounges* about town.

Monday, I inspect the wonder of wonders, *The Gigantic Whale*, the length of which is 95 feet, at the handsome Pavilion, Charing-Cross,—hundreds of the curious, visit this Queen of the Seas, which excites the admiration, and astonishment of the public.

Tuesday, call at the Egyptian Hall Bazaar, Piccadilly, to visit that Phenomenon the *Highland Youth*, whose miraculous powers of *Double Sight* surpass belief. Science is baffled by this child, and in a less enlightened age, he and his father would have been burnt for wizards. His levees (every half-hour) are crowded by the *elite* of the land.

Wednesday, I peep into the Exeter Hall Exhibition, were, among many curious Pictures, is the extraordinary one by H. Basano, the colours of which are compounded of human flesh!—nothing else could produce the same tints.

On Friday, I pop in to examine *Miss Linwood's* curious Needle-Work, in Leicester Square—just added other beautiful specimens of her art.

Saturday evening call in at Brett's, 109, Drury Lane, for my weekly allowance of *Cream of the Valley*, and Patent Brandy, as recommended by my Physician. Can't bear to give trouble, so just pop a couple of bottles in my pockets, and order a gallon of each to be sent to Mrs.——; who, though a most exemplary member of the Temperance Society, has no objection to a drop of good stuff, taken *medicinally*.

Last night I had a puzzler;—just as I was putting on my night-cap, "Paul," said Mrs. Pry, "what is more brilliant than Peak's wit, or blacker than Miss Love's eyes? I made a hit—*Warren's Jet Blacking!*—Isn't that a good one?—but I intrude, beg pardon, your's, &c. PAUL PRY.

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Theatre Roval, Covent Garden.

This Evening, (for the 9th time,) a new Tragedy, in 5 Acts, called

Francis the First.

With new Scenery, Dresses, and Decorations.

Francis the First, King of France, Mr J. MASON,
Charles, Duke of Alençon, Mr DIDDEAR,
Charles....Duke of Bourbon....Mr C. KEMBLE,
Laval, Mr G. BENNETT,
Vendome, } Old Generals, } Mr EVANS,
Chabannes, } Mr EGERTON,
Bonnivet, Mr DURUSET,
Gonzales, (a Spanish Confessor,) Mr WARDE,
Clement Marot, (a Poet,) Mr ABBOTT,
Lautree, Mr BAKER,
Triboulet, (the Court Jester,) Mr KEELEY,
Marlon, Mr PAYNE.

Louisa of Savoy, King's Mother, Miss F. KEMBLE,
Françoise de Foix, Miss E. TREE,
Margaret of Valois, the King's Sister, Miss TAYLOR,
Florise, Miss LEE.

To conclude with, Mozart's Opera of The

Marriage of Figaro.

Count Almaviva, Mr WRENCH,
Figaro, Mr G. PENSON, Fiorello, Mr DURUSET,
Basil, Mr MORLEY,
Antonio, Mr BARTLEY, Sebastian, Mr BENEDICT,
Cherubino, (the Page,) Miss TAYLOR,
Countess Almaviva.....Miss INVERARITY,
Susanna, Miss SHIRREFF,
(Their 4th Appearance in those Characters.)

Barbarina, Miss CAWSE, Marcelina. Mrs DALY.

To-morrow, No Performance.

Theatre Royal, Drury Lane.

This Evening, the Tragic Play of

PIZARRO.

Rolla, Mr WALLACK,
Ataliba, Mr C. JONES, Orozembo, Mr YOUNGE,
Blind Man, Mr ANDREWS,
Orano, Mr YARNOLD, Topac, Miss CHAPLIN,
Cora, Miss PHILLIPS.
Pizarro.....Mr H. WALLACK,
Alonzo, Mr COOPER, Las Casas, Mr THOMPSON,
Valverde, Mr BRINDAL,
Sentinel, Mr SALTER. Almagro, Mr COOKE,
Davilla, Mr FENTON.
Elvira.....Mrs FAUCIT.

In Act 2,--The Temple of the Sun.

High Priest, Mr TEMPLETON,
Priests, Virgins, Matrons, &c,--Messrs. Bedford,
Tayleure, Perry, Ross, Eaton, Bishop, &c.
Mrs Humby, Mrs B. Penley, Mrs C. Tompkins,
Miss Faucit, Mrs Mapleson, Mrs Bedford,
Miss Crawford, Mrs Orger, Mrs Brudenell, &c. &c

After which, the Last New

DIORAMA,

Designed and Painted by Mr Stanfield.
From Sketches taken on the Spot, during his last Continental Tour,
Displaying
Venice and its Adjacent Islands.

To conclude, (30th time) the Domestic Drama, called

THE RENT DAY.

In the course of which will be realized the Subjects of the popular Engravings after WILKIE;—viz.
'The Rent Day,' & The Distraining for Rent.'
Grantley, Mr BRINDAL, Old Crumbs, Mr YOUNGE,
Martin Heywood, Mr WALLACK, Toby Heywood, Mr COOPER,
Bull-frog, Mr HARLEY, Hyssop, Mr BEDFORD,
Silver Jack, Mr H. WALLACK, Beanstalk, Mr HUGHES,
Rachel Heywood, Miss PHIILLIPS, Polly Briggs, Mrs HUMBY.